

**City of Viroqua  
Common Council Meeting  
September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Karen Mischel with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Mike Koppa, Tanja Birke, John Thompson, Cyndy Hubbard, Kristal Welter and Terry Noble present. Also present were City Administrator Nate Torres, Deputy Clerk Jodie Oliver, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Library Director Trina Erickson, City Engineer Sarah Grainger, Mike Maas ADCI, Jeff Gohlke, Randy Skinner, Lisa Henner, Caroline Glover, Jennifer Marales, Lauren McElroy and Tom Wilson.

**2. Oath of Office – Kristal Welter- Ward 8 Alderperson**

**3. Approval of the 08/25/2020 Regular Council minutes.**

Motion by Alderperson Welter to approve the minutes of the 8/25/20 council meeting. Seconded by Alderperson Birke. All voted aye, motion carried.

**4. First period for public comment.**

Jennifer Maralas stated she was in support of the diversity board and VERJ supported the number of members.

**5. Acceptance of resignation of Peter Bergquist – Ward 9 Alderperson.**

A motion was made by Alderperson Thompson, seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the resignation of Peter Bergquist. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**6. Appointment of Chet Melcher as Ward 9 Alderperson**

Tabled

**7. Ordinance creating chapter 2.50 “Diversity Advisory Board” – Second Reading**

Alderperson Birke brought forward some changes to Section 2.50.030 of the ordinance. A motion was made by Alderperson Birke seconded by Alderperson Splinter to amend Ordinance 2.50 as Tanya has written it, along with compensation and including the way people are appointed. A roll call vote was taken with Alderpersons Tryggestad, Noble, Koppa, Hubbard and Thompson voting no. Alderpersons Splinter, Birke and Welter voting aye. Motion failed.

**8. Approval of request from Wonderstate Coffee for premise change to include outside patio area for Class B beer and Class C wine license – 302 S Main St. (Public Safety)**

A motion was made by Alderperson Birke and seconded by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the premise change for Wonderstate Coffee. Alderpersons Splinter, Noble, Birke, Koppa, Hubbard, Thompson and Welter voting aye. Alderperson Tryggestad abstained. Motion carries.

**9. Discussion with possible amendments to Council Rules**

A motion was made by Alderperson Thompson, seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the amendments to the council rules. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**10. Approval of Pay Request #7, A1 Excavating – Viroqua Business Park (Public Works)**

A motion was made by Alderperson Birke, seconded by Alderperson Splinter to approve Pay Request #7 in the amount of \$57,531. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**11. Approval of bids for Railroad Avenue sewer project phase 1 (Public Works)**

A total of 6 bids came in, ranging from \$98,000 to \$162,000. A motion was made by Alderperson Tryggestad, seconded by Alderperson Hubbard to approve Badger Environmental. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**12. Review and discussion of GEC Property Condition Assessment Report for 1140 Nelson Parkway property.**

The roof should have a lifespan of 50 years, but it is likely the original roof. There are signs of past leaking and patching on the roof. The parking lot is at the end of its useful life and needs attention. There are some signs of rusting on the railings and some cement steps have been repaired. It is a pre-engineered steel building frame. There is an older heater above the west side bathrooms. The HVAC equipment should serve the building well into the foreseeable future. The building has fire extinguishers, but no sprinklers or alarm system.

**13. Possible closed session per WI Stats. 19.85 (1) (e) – deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – Offer to Purchase building at 1140 Nelson Parkway (old VMH Wellness Center) for Police Station.**

A motion was made by Alderperson Hubbard, seconded by Alderperson Thompson to go into closed session at 8:27 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried. A motion was made by Alderperson Tryggestad, seconded by Alderperson Hubbard to come out of closed session at 8:35 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**14 Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session.**

A motion was made by Alderperson Thompson seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the purchase of 1140 Nelson Parkway for \$750,000. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**15. Possible closed session per WI Stats. 19.85 (1) (e) – deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – Memorandum of Understanding with Vernon Communication for the purchase of land and granting of easements.**

A motion was made by Alderperson Birke, seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad to go into closed session at 8:45 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried. A motion was made by Alderperson Thompson, seconded by Alderperson Hubbard to reconvene into open session at 9:09 p.m. All voted aye, motion carried.

**16. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session.**

A motion was made by Alderperson Hubbard, seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the purchase of the alley from Vernon Communications for \$45,000. A roll call vote was taken with Alderperson Tryggestad, Splinter, Noble, Koppa, Hubbard, Thompson and Welter all voting aye. Alderperson Birke voting no. Motion carried.

**Payment of bills (Finance)**

A motion was made by Alderperson Hubbard, seconded by Alderperson Noble to approve the payment of bills for \$338,168.73. A roll call vote was taken with all voting aye, motion carried.

**16 Second Period for Public Comment.**

Randy Skinner wanted to tell the council to keep working on the diversity board.

**17. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Alderperson Splinter, seconded by Alderperson Welter to approve adjournment at 9:11 p.m. All vote aye, motion carried.

**Jodie Oliver  
Deputy Clerk**